

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

**Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A nonaqueous electrolyte, comprising:**

**a nonaqueous solvent containing ethylene carbonate (EC),  $\gamma$ -butyrolactone (BL), and at least one selected from the group consisting of ethylene sulfite, phenylethylene carbonate, ~~2-methylfuran, furan, thiophene~~, catechol carbonate and vinyl ethylene carbonate as a third solvent, the EC content falling within a range of 20 to 50% by volume based on the total amount of the EC and the BL, and the BL content falling within a range of 40 to 80% by volume based on the total amount of the EC and the BL; and**

**a solute dissolved in said nonaqueous solvent.**